



CHATEAU DE FERRAND

GRAND CRU CLASSÉ SAINT-ÉMILION

v i n t a g e 2021



TASTING NOTES

JANE ANSON	92/100
TERRE DE VINS	94/100
BETTANE+DESSEAUVÉ	93-94/100
MARKUS DEL MONEGO	94/100

Blend:

- 64 % Merlot
- 35 % Cabernet Franc
- 1 % Cabernet Sauvignon



A step forward

2021 marked a turning point for Chateau de Ferrand: first year under conversion to organic growing and first vintage with a higher proportion of Cabernet Franc in the final blend.

Climate conditions and growing period

The winter of 2021 was cool and damp (up to 350 mm of rain). The first buds appeared slightly early, at the end of March. Whilst the country as a whole suffered from a significant period of frost in early April, Ferrand was spared, doubtless because of its high position. Temperatures were cooler from 5 May onwards, paired with heavy rainfall (127 mm of rain from 4 to 25 May) which slowed the development of the vines. Flowering began later and took longer (from 26 May to 3 June).

Heavy rainfall came crashing down on the vineyards from 16 June to mid-July. This second period of rain caused much stress, particularly as this was the first year of our conversion to organic growing: work among the vines intensified to ensure that the bunches were as well ventilated as possible. This ability to anticipate meant that Ferrand was not heavily affected by downy mildew.

The summer was marked by a drier period that lasted up until harvest time. The vines drew on the water reserves found in Ferrand's limestone-clay soils. Veraison began around 28 July.

Cool nights in September helped to preserve the grapes' freshness and top-quality aromas.

Harvests

The harvests began with the young vines on 30 September, amid beautiful sunshine. After eight days of harvesting, we braved waiting a few extra days to give the Cabernet the time it needed, with rain and cold threatening the remaining harvest period. The Cabernet was finally harvested, perfectly ripe, from 18 to 20 October.

Tasting commentary

With its higher proportion of Cabernet Franc, Château de Ferrand 2021 is marked by freshness, radiance, vibrancy and beautiful balance.

November 2023